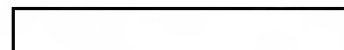


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20 September 1965



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2. India-Pakistan: Current situation report.
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6. Notes: Poland; Arab States. (Page 11)

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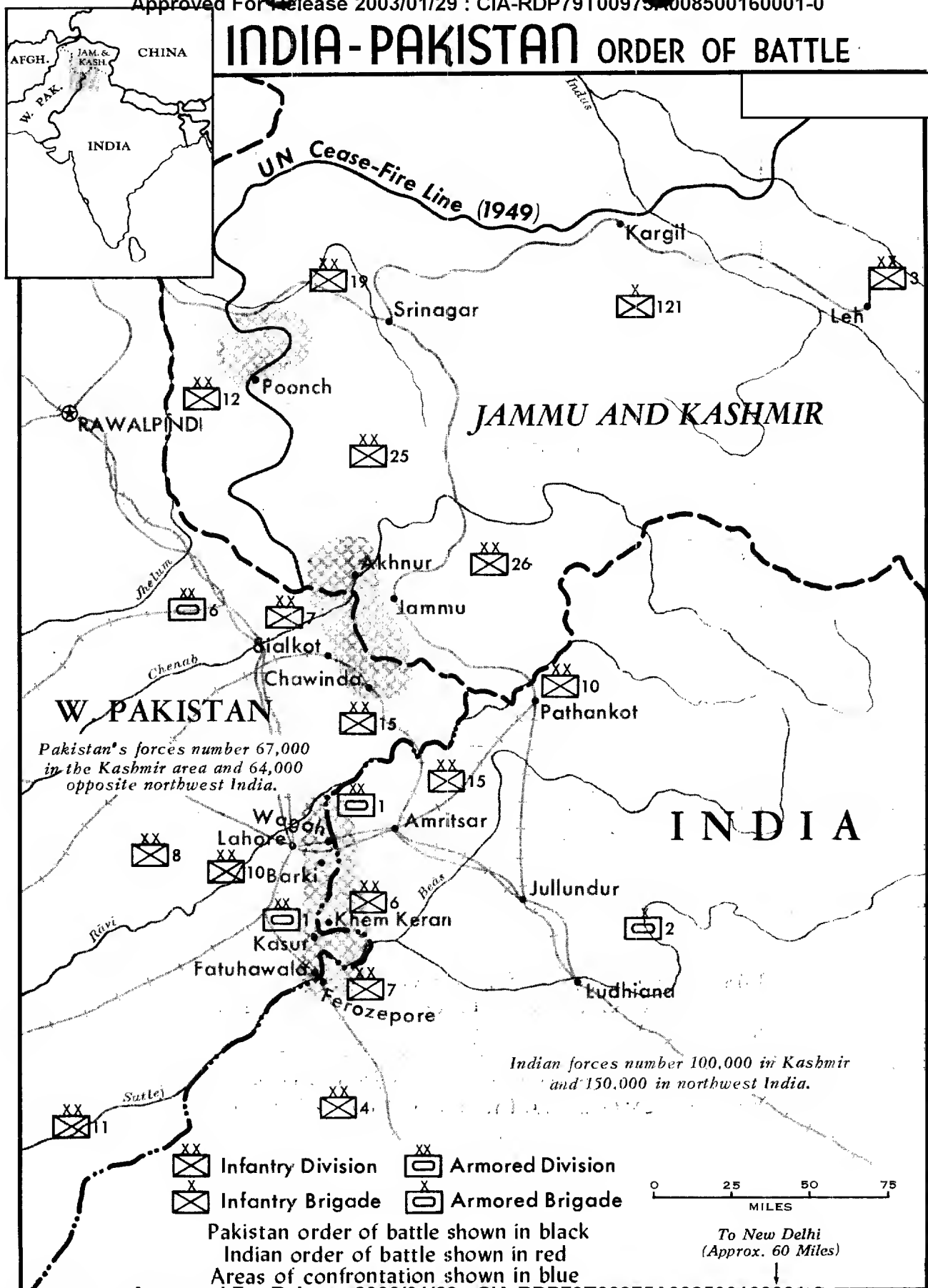
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INDIA-PAKISTAN ORDER OF BATTLE

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India-Pakistan: (Information as of 4:30 AM EDT)

The fighting has not greatly abated but diplomatic efforts are continuing in an attempt to arrange a cease-fire.

Fighting continued in both the Punjab and Kashmir throughout the weekend, with the Sialkot area still the center of the most intense conflict. Both sides claim to have made advances, but the battle line appears to be largely stationary at present.

Pakistan claims to have stopped the Indian thrust toward Sialkot, but the Indians state that they are maintaining enough pressure on this front to force the Pakistanis to commit virtually all of their armor-- which the Indians hope to whittle down by attrition-- in the battle. The Lahore sector appears quiet at latest report, with some artillery exchanges and patrolling activity.

Intensive efforts to hammer out a new Security Council resolution calling for a cease-fire were under way throughout the weekend, and the Council unanimously adopted a resolution early this morning. The new resolution "demands" a cease-fire in stronger terms than earlier UN resolutions on this subject and calls on the combatants to end the fighting within 48 hours. In addition, it calls on India and Pakistan to settle the "political problem underlying the present conflict." Pakistan, however, continues to object that the resolution makes no provision for a Kashmir plebiscite.

TASS reported yesterday that Soviet Premier Kosygin had invited both Ayub and Shastri to meet on Soviet soil "to reach agreement on the restoration of peace between India and Pakistan." The Soviet proposal includes a suggestion that Kosygin himself would participate in the talks if the two prime parties wished.

(continued)

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*This dramatic extension of Moscow's previous offers of its "good offices" to help end hostilities reflects growing Soviet concern over the possible consequences of deeper Chinese involvement in the crisis. Soviet comments on the situation continue to reflect an unmistakable preoccupation with the Chinese role. The initial TASS announcement makes no reference to U Thant's suggestion that Ayub and Shastri meet in a friendly neutral country for talks.

A Pakistani foreign ministry spokesman, in announcing Kosygin's offer, said yesterday that Pakistan is very "appreciative of the offer" and that "it is receiving our earnest consideration." In addition, Pakistani foreign ministry sources are quoted as saying that Kosygin's message was regarded as "very important and highly significant."

[Pakistani Finance Minister Shoaib, in conversation with Ambassador McConaughy yesterday, said he was greatly encouraged by the increasing moderation of Ayub's attitude. He described Ayub as disenchanted with Foreign Minister Bhutto's reckless adventurism, grieved at Pakistani losses, strongly averse to entering into any Chinese Communist association, and open to a sensible compromise way out of the present impasse. Shoaib recognized that India would not agree to a plebiscite in Kashmir and suggested as a minimum alternative a UN resolution calling for a settlement of all outstanding issues between the two countries, "including Kashmir."]

[Since Bhutto apparently continues to speak of the necessity for a guarantee on the Kashmir issue prior to a cease-fire, the ambassador states that it is evident that a struggle for power within the Pakistani cabinet and Ayub's inner circle is under way.]

American officials in New Delhi conclude that there are no indications of Indian use of American furnished weapons against Pakistan. [REDACTED]

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NOTES

Poland: Seasonal military exercises and public uneasiness over the international situation have spawned scare rumors and a run on staple foods in Poland. The call-up of some reservists and civilian vehicles, the use of civil defense units, and the preparations by Soviet military forces to participate in maneuvers have contributed to the public nervousness. Some of this seasonal military activity probably is related to an anticipated Warsaw Pact exercise in East Germany or Poland, but there is no evidence that it is related to the situations in south and southeast Asia.

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Arab States: Moderate Arab leaders apparently controlled the Summit Conference just concluded at Casablanca. One resolution called for a quick cease-fire in the Kashmir war and settlement by peaceful means,

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Another resolution expressed "deep concern" about the situation in Vietnam and asked for a solution in accordance with the 1954 Geneva agreement. This contrasts with Nasir's recent charge in Moscow of "the aggression to which North Vietnam is being subjected."

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